

SOUTH BEND, IND.

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Indiana

Cities & Towns

South Bend

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

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Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

1320

107th CONGRESS.
2d Session.

SENATE.

REP. COM.
No. 90.

IND

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MARCH 2, 1868.—Ordered to be printed.

MR. SUMNER made the following

REPORT.

[To accompany bill H. R. No. 881.]

The Committee on Finance, to whom was referred H. R. 881, refunding duties paid under protest on the importation from France of a bell donated for the use of St. Mary's Institute and Notre Dame University, Indiana, beg leave to report:

The bell referred to weighs 16,650 pounds, and is the largest in the United States. It is composed of 94 per cent. of Lake Superior copper. This was exported to France, and there with 6 per cent. of tin cast into this bell. It was presented as a charity by the Sisters of Mercy in France to the above-named institution of learning, conducted by the Sisters of Mercy in Indiana.

It was imported under the supposition that it would be admitted free of duty under a clause of section 23 of the tariff act approved March 2, 1861, which exempts from duty "all philosophical apparatus, instruments, books, maps, and charts, statues, statuary, busts and casts of marble, bronze, alabaster, or plaster of Paris, paintings and drawings, etchings, specimens of sculpture, cabinets of coins, medals, regalia, gems, and all collections of antiquities: *Provided*, The same be specially imported in good faith for the use of any society incorporated or established for philosophical, literary, or religious purposes, or for the encouragement of the fine arts, or for the use or by the order of any college, academy, school, or seminary of learning in the United States."

Under this clause organs have been admitted free of duty. The bell is certainly a cast of bronze for a college, and is certainly as much a work of art as an organ. The collector of customs did not so regard it, and the duties, amounting to \$2,203 83, were paid. The college now asks the refunding of these duties, for the following reasons:

1st. The bell was a donation to our institutions of learning, which institutions during the late war sent even its best and most efficient teachers, to the number of 50, to serve in the military hospitals. Some died, and many returned home shattered in health, but from our institution we kept the number recruited until the close of the war. For these services we were encouraged by some of our most eminent generals to believe that the duty (so insignificant in its amount to Congress, yet onerous to Sisters of Mercy, whose lives are devoted to works of charity) would be remitted. Therefore when the bell reached New York we paid the amount *under protest*.

2d. The second reason why the memorialists supposed that the bell would be passed free of duty was based on the fact that as a work of art, or rather mechanism, it is the finest article of the bell kind in the United States, and as it was not imported for sale, but merely for the adornment and improvement of public literary institutions, the memorialists pray Congress to encourage the importation of such rare and valuable donations, that are in a manner public property, by allowing on said bell the remission of duty paid last August.

3d. The memorialists consider that another strong reason for remitting the duty is found in the fact that the copper, which forms 94 per centum of the composition, is native ore, having been exported to France from Lake Superior.

Upon the facts and reasons thus stated your committee recommend that the duty be refunded.

But the committee is constrained to find, from the facts before it, that Mrs. Lincoln is not, in fact, in the destitute condition that has been represented of her; and that her means must be reasonably sufficient for the just necessities of a citizen of the United States, either at home or abroad.

On the death of Mr. Lincoln, in April, 1865, he had received only one month's salary for that year, and by act of Congress the balance of that year's salary was given directly to Mrs. Lincoln.

This sum was (a little above).....	\$22,000 00
On the 13th of November, 1867, the estate of Mr. Lincoln was settled, and there was paid over to her, as her share of the personal estate, (and the same sum was appropriated to her minor son Thomas)	36,765 60

Making a total of cash assets belonging to Mrs. Lincoln.	58,765 60
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In addition to this there was and is some real estate in which she has an interest; but as that is not very productive, the committee do not estimate it as of any value.

But besides the before stated sum of available assets so received by her, she received, as the committee has good reason to think, no inconsiderable amount of clothing, plate, household goods, &c., after the death of Mr. Lincoln, and which in considering her pecuniary condition should be added to the before-mentioned sum. And further, it is well known that soon after Mr. Lincoln's death subscriptions were opened for her benefit in several cities and towns of the Union, but the committee has no means of knowing the extent thereof, or whether she ever actually realized anything therefrom. Mrs. Lincoln herself does not seem to urge her claim entirely upon the ground of an actual want of the comforts of life. In her petition, transmitted from Frankfort, Germany, to Congress, praying for a pension, she states that, "By the advice of my physician I have gone over to Germany to try the mineral waters, and during the winter go to Italy. But my financial means do not permit me to take advantage of the urgent advice given me, nor can I live in a state becoming the widow of the chief magistrate of a great nation, though I live as economically as I can."

From the stand-point of a European kingdom and of European society, this very possibly is correct; but in a republican country, where there are no distinctions of rank, and where all duties are measured largely by the means of performance, the committee thinks that a fortune of \$60,000, or even one-third of that sum, for one lady, must take her out of the catalogue of those whose necessities in connection with public service give them a claim upon the treasury.

There are some other facts bearing upon this subject which it is probably not needful to refer to, but which are generally known, and evidence in respect to part of which is in the possession of the committee.

The people now pay from their earnings the annual sum of \$33,400,000 toward the maintenance of our disabled soldiers and sailors, with their widows and orphans, in sums varying from \$8 per month up to \$50 per month.

In a great many of these cases this provision is entirely inadequate for the comfortable sustenance of persons absolutely needy and dependent, and whose sacrifices and sufferings have been as great as any possible. And yet, from obvious considerations, Congress has thus far felt obliged to limit the measure of its relief to these persons, and to

decline altogether to render aid in the form of pensions to cases not strictly of a military or naval character.

There is no instance in the history of the country of a pension to the widow of the highest military officer greater than \$50 per month. Beyond this limit the utmost has been to give the widow and family a sum equivalent to a year's salary of the deceased officer, as was done in the case of Mrs. Harrison and of Mrs. Rawlins, and perhaps one or two other instances. This has already been done for Mrs. Lincoln by the gift to her of \$22,000 in 1865; a sum producing (aside from her other estate) an annual income more than twice as great as the highest pension of any of the widows of that great army of heroes and martyrs who devoted themselves to a branch of the public service in which peril was the rule and security the exception, and who at last consciously gave up lives rendered illustrious by noble deeds for the preservation of the republic.

Under the circumstances of the case the committee does not think that either sentiment or duty requires a further provision in accordance with the request of Mrs. Lincoln.

The committee recommends that the bill be indefinitely postponed.

Discovery Hall Museum

HOURS OF OPERATION

EXHIBIT HALL: TUES.—FRI. 10:00—4:30
SAT.—SUN. 1:00—4:00
MON. & HOLIDAYS - CLOSED

OTHER HOURS BY APPOINTMENT

LIBRARY
AND OFFICE: MON.—FRI. 9:00—5:00

ADMISSION FEES

ADULTS	50¢
CHILDREN 6—16	25¢
CHILDREN UNDER 6	No Charge
SENIOR CITIZENS	35¢

SCHOOL GROUPS

No Charge To Groups From South Bend
Schools If Arranged Prior To Tour Date.

LOCATION

IN CENTURY CENTER
120 S. ST. JOSEPH STREET
SOUTH BEND, INDIANA

MEMBERSHIP

Benefits of membership in Discovery Hall Associates include:

- I. Free admission to Discovery Hall.
- II. Discounts on programs and publications.
- III. Invitations to special openings and events.
- IV. Free subscription to the Association's Newsletter
- V. An opportunity to serve on a variety of Committees providing valuable assistance to the museum.
- VI. The knowledge that you are directly helping a worthwhile community endeavor.

<input type="checkbox"/> Junior Member (K-8)	\$ 1.00 (non-voting)
<input type="checkbox"/> Student (High School)	5.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior (Aged 65 and over)	5.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular	10.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	15.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining	25.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-profit organization	25.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Sponsoring	100.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Business or institution	100.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Life (individual only)	300.00

Dues for Life Memberships are placed in the Discovery Hall Endowment Fund. The interest earned is used for purchase of artifacts and conservation purposes.

To join, simply check the appropriate membership category above, fill in the form below and mail, with your check to:

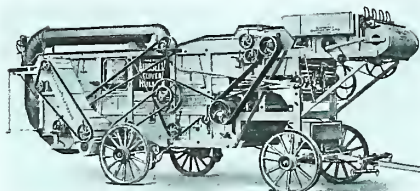
Discovery Hall Associates
Discovery Hall Museum
120 S. St. Joseph Street
South Bend, Indiana 46601

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP:

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____

DISCOVERY HALL MUSEUM

120 South Saint Joseph Street
South Bend, Indiana 46601
(219) 284-9714



BIRDELL CLOVER-HULLER

DISCOVERY HALL ANNEX*

221 West Bronson Street
At Lafayette Boulevard

(219) 288-8555

*NOW OPEN ON THE FIRST AND THIRD SUNDAY
OF EACH MONTH
12:30 - 5:30 P.M.
OTHER TIMES BY APPOINTMENT.



1913 STUDEBAKER SIX

Century
Center

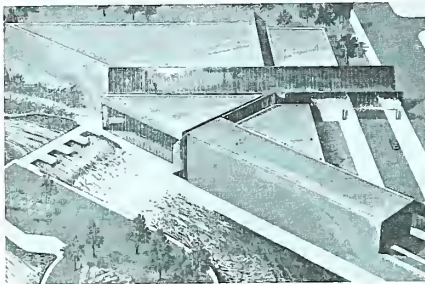
Discovery
Hall
Museum

LOCATION

Discovery Hall Museum is a major component of South Bend's exciting new civic complex, Century Center.

The 200,000 square foot Center's site is an 11-acre tract along the west bank of the St. Joseph River in downtown South Bend. The location was the site of the city's first industrial area, established during the 1840's. On its two principal levels the Center provides space for a series of activities areas. These are grouped around The Courtyard, a climate-controlled town square with a panoramic view of the river and its spectacular whitewater channel. Separating the activities areas - and, at the same time, connecting them - are wide interior streets covered with angled roofs of mirror-coated, energy-conserving glass.

The Center's internationally-recognized architects, Philip Johnson and John Burgee, describe it as an enclosed campus. It is a campus that serves the varied interests of people in all walks of life.



CENTURY CENTER FROM THE NORTH

EXHIBITS

Discovery Hall Museum will interpret the industrial and commercial history of the South Bend area. Exhibits in the 12,000 square foot gallery will tell the story of South Bend's growth from a river fur trading post through the agricultural and automotive revolu-



SITE OF CENTURY CENTER FROM THE EAST, 1894
COURTESY NORTHERN INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

tions to our present diversified economic base. Objects illustrating the history of South Bend's many industries, including Bendix, Singer, Oliver, O'Brien, South Bend Range, and South Bend Toy, and featuring the Studebaker Historic Vehicle Collection, will document this fascinating story.

Discovery Hall's permanent exhibits are being planned and designed by Joseph A. Wetzel Associates whose exhibit designs for many major American museums have won international acclaim. In addition to the permanent exhibits, temporary and special exhibits will be regular features at Discovery Hall.

PROGRAMS

A research library is provided in Discovery Hall where persons interested in the industrial, technological and commercial development of South Bend can use original and microfilmed records to study their particular area of interest. Traveling exhibits and audio-visual programs also are planned for Discovery Hall, which will provide temporary exhibit and instructional material for schools, organizations and other institutions for a variety of uses.

Public programs, including workshops, seminars, lectures and films, will be a regular feature of Discovery Hall's activities. All of these activities will be available to all residents of the South Bend area, as well as out of town visitors.

OPERATION

Discovery Hall Museum is a department of the City of South Bend, with a director and professional staff directly responsible to the Mayor and Common Council. The Museum works closely with the staffs of Century Center, Northern Indiana Historical Society, Michiana Arts and Sciences Council, and other civic organizations to provide the finest in cultural and educational programs.

Discovery Hall Associates, a private, non-profit membership organization, chartered under the laws of the State of Indiana as an educational institution, gives direct support and financial assistance to Discovery Hall Museum. Members of the Association can serve the museum in a number of ways; including serving as volunteers and as members of standing and special committees. Membership in the Association is open to everyone.

DONATIONS

Donations to Discovery Hall, in the form of financial aid, artifacts, services, or other assistance, are accepted and encouraged. The museum's current collection of artifacts includes the Studebaker Historic Vehicle Collection, from the 1830 Conestoga Wagon to the 1963 Avanti, plus objects from South Bend's many other manufacturing firms. Additional artifacts are needed to tell the complete story and to preserve examples of South Bend's commercial products.

Donations enable the museum to provide a wide variety of programs and activities for the public's enjoyment. All donations, either directly to Discovery Hall Museum or to Discovery Hall Associates, are generally tax deductible under Section 501 (c) 3 of the Internal Revenue Code.



1830 CONESTOGA WAGON



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